असंगठित क्षेत्र के मजदूर

2214. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र :** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि **:**

(क) क्या यह सच हैं कि भारत के 32 करोड़ मजदूरों में से 26 करोड़ असंगठित क्षेत्र में हैं,

(ख) क्या यह भी सच हैं कि इनमें से अधिकांश को न्यूनतम मजदूरी भी नहीं मिलती हैं,

(ग) क्या यह सच हैं कि अधिकांश फैक्टरियां तथा व्यापारिक संस्थान, जहां ये काम करते हैं, किसी अधिनियम के तहत नहीं आते हैं, और

(घ) क्या सरकार इन मजदूरों की मजदूरी समेंत दूसरे मामलों के निपटाने हेतु कोई एजेंसी बनायेगी तथा न्यूनतम मजदूरी को मुद्र-स्फीति के साथ जोड़ेगी ?

श्रम मंत्री (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया) : (क) जी, हां ।(ख) जी, नहीं ।

(ग) जी, नहीं

(घ) न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम, 1948 के अतंर्गत न्यूनतम मजदूरी निर्धारित करने और प्रवर्तन की जिम्मेदारी समुचित सरकार की हैं जिनके पास पहले की इस उद्देश्य के लिए प्रवर्तन तंत्र हैं । केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत अधिसूचित न्यूनतम मजदूरी उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक से जुड़ी हुई हैं । राज्यों सरकारों को भी राज्य क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत न्यूनतम मजदूरी को उपभोकता मूल्य सूचकांक से जोड़ने का अनुरोध किया गया हैं और कुछ राज्य सरकारों ने तदनुसार कार्रवाई भी की हैं ।

Employment Exchanges Functioning in Andhra Pradesh

2215. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employment exchanges functioning in Andhra Pradesh at present, District-wise;

(b) the number of persons registered thereunder with each exchange;

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to provide employment to them in the near future; and

(d) whether Government propose to provide unemployment allowance to the jobless youths in the State?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The number of employment exchanges functioning in Andhra Pradesh and the number of job-seekers registered thereunder as on 31.3.98 is given in Statement enclosed *(see* below) District-wise information is not maintained.

(c) The Approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

(d) Central Government has no proposal to provide unemployment allowance to the jobless youth.

Statement

Number of Job-Seekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh as on 31.03.98

(In Thousand)

Sl. No	Exchange	Live Register
1	2	3
1.	Adilabad	123.6
2.	Anantapur	124.3
3.	Chittoor	156.0
4.	Cuddopoh	122.4
5.	Eluru	101.7
6.	Guntur	116.3
7.	Hyderabad (T+C)	125.7
8.	Hyderabad (Labour)	50.0
9.	Hyderabad (P.H.)	4.8
10	Hyderabad (P&E)	67.1
11	Kakinada	140.8
12	Karimnagar	153.3
13	Khammameth	103.1
14	Kumool	127.6
15	Mehboobnagar	128.8'
16	Nalgonda	116.5
17	Nellore	97.7

1	2	3
'18.	Nizamabad	79*
19.	Ongelc-Parkasam	99.1
20.	Rangareddy	186.4
21.	Sangareddy	112.9
22.	Saikakulam	96.4
23.	Vijaywada (Krishna)	114.2
24.	Vishakhapatanam (C)	127.3
25.	Vishakhapatham (T+U)	90.3
26.	Vishakhapatnam (Gujuwaka)	8.5
27.	Vizianagaram	81.3
28.	Waranagal	142.9
29.	U.E.I.G.B. Hyderabad	58.3
30.	U.E.I.G.B, Tirupati	28.1
31.	U.E.I.G.B. Waltair	18.0
	TOTAL	3103.2

Reaction of Trade Unions of VRS

2216. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the news-items "VRS for PSUs condemned by TUS" in the Statesman, Calcutta dated the 15th June, 1998;

(b) whether circulars have been issued by BPMEL Management threatening suspension of operation in units unless employees opt for VRS, as alleged;

(c) whether this was brought to the notice of his Ministry; and

(d) if so, the action taken by this Ministry to protect the rights of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By a notice dated May 22, 1998, management of the company has reminded the employees that the tenure of voluntary retirement scheme would expire on 31.5.98 and would not be extended further. The management had also informed the employees of the company that operation would remain suspended from 1.6.98.

(c) and (d) A separation scheme was issued by the management on the basis of the approval of the Government for a period of 3 months. The scheme was a special gesture on the part of the Govern-ment of mitigate the sufferings of the employees in view of the winding up order of the company by the BIFR.

Payment of Provident Fund to Retired Employees of Private Sector Companies

2217. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases involving payment of the amount of Provident Fund to the retired employees of private sector companies, pending as on 31st December, 1997;

(b) the range of pendency period;

(c) the reasons for the pendency;

(d) the steps taken by Government for making payment at the earliest;

(e) whether any time limit has been fixed for the payment of Provident Fund amounts; and

(f) if not, whether Government propose to fix such a limit to avoid hardship to the retired employees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) 96,601.

(b) to (f) According to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) there were 83,186 claims pending for less than two months, 13080 claims pending between two to six months and 335 pending over six months. The provident fund claims, complete in all respects, are required to be settled within 30 days from the date of receipt in the EPFO. However, sometimes settlement of claims is delayed due to incomplete application forms, variation in signature, non-receipt of returns from the employer, etc. In order to expedite settlement of provident fund claims more PF offices nearer to